REMARKS

Please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for carefully considering this application and for indicating that the drawings filed on December 9, 2003 are accepted.

Attorney Docket Number

Applicant respectfully requests that the Attorney Docket No. for this matter be changed from "03226/358001" as indicated on the cover sheet received with this office action to "03226/368001; P7878".

Disposition of the Claims

Claims 1-38 are pending in the present application. By way of this reply, claims 1-38 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 39-75 are newly added. Of the newly added claims, claims 39, 53, 55, and 62 are independent. The remaining claims depend, directly or indirectly, from claims 39, 53, 55, and 62.

Claim Amendments

By way of this reply, claims 39-75 are newly added to clarify Applicant's contribution to the art. Applicant asserts that no new subject matter is added with these amendments as support may be found in paragraphs [0036] - [0089] of the specification and associated Figures.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 7, 9, 20, 31, and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as being indefinite. Claims 7, 9, 20, 31, and 33 are cancelled by way of this reply. Accordingly, this rejection is now moot. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,349,355 (hereinafter referred to as "Draves"). Claims 1-38 are cancelled by way of this reply. Accordingly, this rejection is now moot. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

New Claims

Newly added independent claims 39, 53, 55, and 62 are directed toward switching a system to privileged mode based on a memory address of an access request. Specifically, independent claim 39 recites, in part, the following:

> (*i*) receiving an memory access request to access an memory address, (*ii*) determining whether the memory address is in the privileged region of memory in response to the request, and (*iii*) switching the system to privileged mode if the memory address is determined to be in the privileged region of memory.

Draves may not be used to support a rejection of independent claim 39 for at least two reasons. First, Draves is directed to using virtual addressing to allow a user process executing in non-privileged mode and the kernel process executing in privileged mode *to share the same physical memory.* (See, *e.g.*, Draves, col. 7, ll. 9-14 and col.8 ll. 59-61.) Because the kernel process and a user process may share the same physical memory, a memory address taught in Draves clearly may not be used to determine whether to switch to privileged mode as recited in claim 39. Second, Draves explicitly teaches that switching between privileged mode and non-privileged mode is performed by trapping a system call. (See, *e.g.,* Draves col. 13 ll. 47-52, col. 14, ll. 16-17.) Nowhere does Draves teach or suggest switching the system to privileged mode simply because a memory address in a privileged region of memory is accessed (*i.e.*, without a trap) as required by claim 39.

Thus, Draves fails to expressly or inherently describe each and every element of claim 39 as required by 35 U.S.C. § 102(e). As a result, claim 39 is patentable over Draves for at
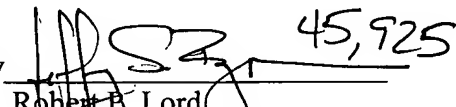
least the reasons given above. Independent claims 53, 55, and 62 contain similar limitations to claim 39 and are allowable for at least the same reasons. Dependent claims 40-52, 54, 56-61, and 63-75, which depend either directly or indirectly from claims 39, 53, 55, and 62, respectively, are patentable for at least the same reasons. Accordingly, favorable consideration of the newly added claims is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 03226/368001).

Dated: September 15, 2006   Respectfully submitted,

By _____ 45,925

Robert P. Lord
Registration No.: 45,479
OSHA-LIANG LLP
1221 McKinney St., Suite 2800
Houston, Texas 77010
(713) 228-8600
(713) 228-8778 (Fax)
Attorney for Applicant